Town Council May 4, 2015 Minutes (Approved)

The Rocky Hill Town Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 4, 2015 in the Council Chambers of Town Hall. Mayor Henry Vasel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance: Deputy Mayor Nadine Bell, Councilor Meg Casasanta, Councilor Guy Drapeau, Councilor Joe Kochanek, , Councilor Frank Szeps and Councilor Cathy Vargas. Also present: Town Manager Guy Scaife and Finance Director John Mehr.

Those absent: Councilor Bill MacDonald and Councilor Tim Moriarty.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Appointments/Resignations

Majority Leader Bell and Councilor Kochanek had no appointments or resignations.

Approval of Minutes

A. Town Council Meeting – April 20, 2015

Deputy Mayor Bell made a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 20, 2015 meeting of the Town Council. The motion was seconded by Councilor Casasanta and adopted unanimously by those present.

B. Public Hearing – April 27, 2015

Councilor Casasanta made a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 27, 2015 public hearing of the Town Council. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Bell and adopted unanimously by those present.

Subcommittee Reports

A. <u>Finance</u>

Councilor Vargas said she had no report for the Finance Committee and their next meeting will be held on May 13, 2015.

B. Public Safety

Deputy Mayor Bell said she had reported about the last Public Safety Committee meeting at their last Town Council meeting. Since then, there has been a very successful Little League Opening

Day, which was also when the Challenger Field dedication took place, and she thanked the RHVAA, as well as the RHPD, for making that a smooth day. Mayor Vasel also mentioned the RHFD was there in force along with the RHPD and the RHVAA and they couldn't say thank you enough to all of them. Councilor Drapeau also mentioned the people who were working in the concession stands and the coaches, etc.

C. Government Operations Committee

Deputy Mayor Bell said a Government Operations Committee had just been held prior to this Town Council meeting. The Rocky Hill High School Renovate As New project is behind schedule but the occupancy date will be met. A corrective schedule is being put together and that will be presented to the Government Operations Committee at its next meeting. Councilor Vargas asked what date the occupancy date is. Deputy Mayor Bell said she didn't have the specific date but it will be for the beginning of the next school year with regards to Phase I. Finance Director Mehr said the Phase I completion date will be August 6, 2015 or August 9, 2015. Deputy Mayor Bell said State approval has been received for the Town to go out to bid for the Stevens School sprinkler/elevator project and the elevator will be subject to the 40% reimbursement rate. Per the Bd of Ed, the West Hill School bathroom update is off of the table. This Committee also received notice that the boiler replacement project at Griswold Middle School is close to being approximately \$100,000 over budget now so they will be looking to see where they can gain some money there.

D. Land Acquisition & Farmland Preservation

Councilor Szeps said the Open Space Land Acquisition & Farmland Preservation Subcommittee's only item will be under Executive Session this evening so that will be taken up then.

E. Senior Affairs Committee

Councilor Vargas had no report for the Senior Affairs Committee and their next meeting won't be until this June.

F. Liaison to State Representative and State Senator

Councilor Szeps said this will be self-explanatory this evening.

Councilor Szeps made a motion to add Item G. (Rules Committee) under Item V. (Subcommittee Reports) on this meeting's agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vargas and adopted unanimously by those present.

G. Rules Committee

Councilor Szeps told the Councilors to please review the Proposed Town Council Rules, which they had in a draft form in front of them. He will schedule a meeting in the future so that they can discuss these, as well as adopt them.

New Business

A. Update – State Senator Doyle and State Representative Guerrera

Mayor Vasel told State Senator Doyle and State Representative Guerrera that the Town Council had questions for them but he asked them if there was something they would like to say first. State Representative Guerrera told the Town Council that he and State Senator Doyle were there for them.

Councilor Kochanek said he was told by Town Manager Scaife that the Foundry issue seems to be held up between the rail line and the Department of Transportation (DOT) with regards to the acceptance of the plan so they can't move forward. He asked State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle if they are aware of this. State Representative Guerrera said not at all and the DOT Commissioner or liaison hasn't mentioned this issue at all so he would be more than willing to go back to them if someone wanted to explain this to him. Town Manager Scaife said after the last Town Council meeting, Ray Carpentino (Economic Development Director) had been asked to check with Attorney Romano, who is representing the developer of that and who had indicated that it is an extremely complicated process in which the DOT and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) are cooperating. The DOT and DEEP asked specifically for this issue not to be escalated. Councilor Kochanek believes it has been said that the request has been in for almost two years now. Mayor Vasel told State Representative Guerrera that maybe he could help them with this. State Representative Guerrera said this is a private deal that is going on and no one has contacted him to ask him anything about DEEP or the DOT. State Senator Doyle said that Town Manager Scaife had just said that he didn't want him or State Representative Guerrera involved but he said that he is now the Chairman of the Energy Committee and DEEP is under that so he and State Representative Guerrera, who is a long time Chairman of Transportation, could contact both the DOT and DEEP if the Town Council wants them to. State Representative Guerrera asked the Town Council if they are asking them to do this. Councilor Kochanek mentioned his question again. He would like to clear this up so asked State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle to help them out to get this thing "on the road". State Representative Guerrera told Councilor Kochanek that they just had heard though that there are no issues. State Senator Doyle confirmed that Town Manager Scaife had said that Attorney Romano had said for nothing to be done. Town Manager Scaife said correct. State Senator Doyle said he and State Representative Guerrera are being given the direction from the Town Council not to do anything at this point. Councilor Kochanek confirmed that the developer is holding this up and it isn't the DOT or DEEP. Mayor Vasel said the developer is saying that DEEP and the DOT are moving forward but they are moving slowly. Councilor Kochanek said they understand this because this has been two years but he told the Town Council if this is acceptable to them then he guesses that they don't have to ask State Representative Guerrera or State Senator Doyle for any help. State Senator Doyle said Attorney Romano had said that there are ongoing negotiations so if he or State Representative Guerrera were to get involved then sometimes agencies don't like that. Councilor Kochanek withdrew his statement about getting State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle involved. Councilor Drapeau asked if it would be possible for the Town Council to ask for an update. State Senator Doyle said he will call Attorney Romano tomorrow. State Representative Guerrera said Town Manager Scaife could also call Attorney Romano for an update. Mayor Vasel told

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them they have to be careful because he understands that there is still some litigation going on too.

Councilor Casasanta told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that the main reason she, as well as the Town Council, wanted them to be present this evening was to go over some key pieces of legislation that are coming before them as they represent them as their constituents on the Town Council. Councilor Casasanta referred to Senate Bill No. 1. If this goes forward and passes as it is stated, the impact on the Towns will be dramatic. The legislation has been amended as of today but there are concerns from a municipality standpoint that this would create such a substantial decrease in revenue to Rocky Hill and other surrounding Towns by the transferring of significant funds from the Towns' taxpayers to the State to disseminate accordingly. She asked if there was any calculation as of today as to how this money would be distributed among the municipalities, if and when it gets to that point. She also asked if there is any way that Rocky Hill can budget appropriately. State Representative Guerrera's opinion is that this bill will probably be drastically changed before it hits the floor of the House and of the Senate. They don't like how this stands right now. Councilor Casasanta asked State Representative Guerrera how he proposed that the changes would be reflected differently and he said they will have to wait for the Finance Committee, as well as for all of the leaders to come up with their decision. Councilor Casasanta assured State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that the Towns they represent are very interested in seeing how this bill will go forward. State Senator Doyle said he and State Representative Guerrera aren't advocates of Senate Bill No. 1 and both of them have problems with some of the underlying principles. State Senator Dovle said they don't know what the ultimate form will be and he is skeptical of this going all the way. He referred to how promises have been made upfront for the car tax and all of these plans. These are made very attractive on paper. The latest version of the car tax is increasing aid to a lot of the municipalities and this would encourage them to tell him and State Representative Guerrera to do this. State Senator Doyle said he has been in the legislation a long time and from his perspective, it is easy to entice them in but the money will be pulled from them five years out and the Town will be "screaming bloody murder" at him and State Representative Guerrera. State Senator Doyle said there is a lot of concern over the original form of another bill in another one of his Towns. He doesn't focus on this until it gets later in the process if this isn't in his Committee because there are fifteen hundred bills. They will wait to see what the final version is of Senate Bill No. 1 but they have some serious concerns with the concept. Councilor Casasanta said the main reason she brought this up is because this does have life to it, whether this is in its original, amended or revised form, according to the main reports out there. This is built as an economic development booster but she can't foresee this as being one because no municipality will recognize how much money they will get in. State Representative Guerrera told Councilor Casasanta that he could understand her concern on this and this is his and State Senator Doyle's concern also so they want to make sure that the funding will still be there whether this is today or five years down the road. State Representative Guerrera said he and State Senator Doyle have been fighting extremely hard to make sure that Rocky Hill gets its share when it comes to Education Cost Sharing and he confirmed that they haven't lost a penny of that yet. Councilor Casasanta said not that she was aware of. State Representative Guerrera said he and State Senator Doyle, as well as the other legislators who represent the communities, want to make sure that Towns are held to that line so that they aren't losing any money so that they don't have to raise their taxes, etc. State Representative Guerrera said there are a lot of

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issues "on the plate" right now and they know this (Senate Bill No. 1) is one of them. They can keep the Town Council informed through Town Manager Scaife if they want or however they want this to be done. State Senator Doyle told them that he wouldn't build in any revenue from Senate Bill No. 1, which could pass but it isn't probable, and he told them to stick with the budget numbers of which they are aware of. Councilor Casasanta told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that she thinks it is valuable for the Rocky Hill people and the Town Council to know about this so that they can give their input to them in order for them to say this isn't supported, as it stands now, by the communities they represent. State Senator Doyle said they can report this to their caucuses.

Councilor Casasanta referred to House Bill 6851, which is an act establishing the Connecticut Transit Corridor Development Authority. This is building up a lot of momentum in Newington, etc. which borders the busway. There are concerns about the potential of Eminent Domain within a half mile of the busway corridor and this is her main concern. She is wondering if there would be any conflict of interest with regards to the people, of which there would be a total of eleven, who are chosen to represent the Connecticut Corridor Development Authority. These would be appointed positions so to her, this would usurp the authority of Planning and Zoning in their role of preparing for these types of development issues. This could be perceived as a conflict of interest because people would be put on this Committee who they know may vote for this or against it and they would have their own agenda. State Representative Guerrera said this had come in front of his Committee the other day and they made sure that Eminent Domain is wiped out. The Town Council also has the right to vote on this and it will be a done deal if they decide they don't want this. This would go through Planning and Zoning if the Town Council passes it. There would have to be a contract first before anything could happen. State Senator Doyle said this bill is a big issue in Newington. The Planning and Development Committee changed this before State Representative Guerrera's Committee got a hold of it. State Senator Doyle said this is heading in the right direction but he is still not certain if he will ultimately support this and he is very skeptical of this also. This is still early in the process and they are not at the final stage with this. He mentioned how a colleague had been quoted in a newspaper as saying that this is a done deal because the Governor supports it but that is absolutely wrong and it means nothing because of the fact that this is a Governor's bill. Those die all of the time. State Senator Doyle said he and State Representative Guerrera will continue to scrutinize House Bill 6851. State Representative Guerrera told Councilor Casasanta that she raised a very good point and he referred to what Rocky Hill had gone through with the nursing home (60 West Street). State Representative Guerrera said this is why House Bill 6851 was very passionate to him when it came in front of his Committee. He wants to make sure that the checks and balances are in place so the local authorities can do what they feel is the right thing to do in their Towns.

Mayor Vasel asked the Councilors if they had any follow-up to what Councilor Casasanta had said. Councilor Szeps told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that even though they aren't in favor of the car tax language that they indicated they were looking at this from another angle and he asked them if they had any other proposal going through their minds that they would like to see with the car tax. State Representative Guerrera said they don't know what is going to happen and there will be a lot of changes in the next two to three weeks. It will be a very difficult session and he thinks there will be a special session into the fall. They don't want to go back to the municipalities to take their money. They don't know yet if there might be vn Council Page 6

some tax increases or some drastic cuts. State Senator Doyle said he is very skeptical of any changes to the car tax system. He thinks this proposal will ultimately take away the municipalities' tool of taxing cars and then there will be 100% burden on real estate but the final version could be something that all of them would support. His guiding principle is to preserve the car tax as a mechanism for the municipalities.

Councilor Szeps mentioned unfunded mandates and the one from DEEP which is referred to as MS4. This has to do with the labeling of catch basins and with their direct impact on the waterways. They are hearing the figure of \$100,000,000 on the State level. He asked State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle if they could comment on that. State Representative Guerrera asked Councilor Szeps if he was talking about the disposing of waste down the catch basins. Mayor Vasel said there is an original draft for MS4 for \$100,000,000 of unfunded mandates to Towns but there is some concern because DEEP hasn't conducted a fiscal impact analysis or it hasn't provided any financing to comply with the proposed requirements. Councilor Szeps told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that they could get them more information on this and State Representative Guerrera said he and State Senator Doyle would get the Town Council some information on it too. State Senator Doyle asked if this could be defined because he wasn't really clear about this. Town Manager Scaife said this is a regulation and not a bill itself that goes back to the Clean Water Act of 1972. This started at the federal level first and then at the State. This was ratcheted down to the cleaning up of point sources to help improve the quality of their surface water. MS4 represents small communities under 100,000) and this is beginning to regulate the outfalls and in falls as storm water runoff goes into their wetlands, etc. There is a cost as the restrictions and mandates are ratcheted down at a municipal level to have this water cleaned up. The DEEP rolled out a set of regulations, of which some were in excess of federal ones, so they have gone back to start reexamining what should be required this coming next year. This is a work in progress. State Representative Guerrera clarified that this goes back to the Clean Water Act and Town Manager Scaife said correct. State Senator Doyle said he is on the Regulation Review Committee and it sounds like they had rejected this regulation a few months ago. He will keep an eye on this and he asked them if they think this is a federal mandate also or if it is a pure State one. Town Manager Scaife said the federal does imply restrictions down at the State level and the State level takes it down. Some of this is interpretation.

Councilor Vargas said the Town Council has a Subcommittee called the Senior Affairs Committee. This had started with a small group of seniors about one and a half years ago. There were quite a few seniors in Council Chambers for this Committee's meeting last month. She thinks they want a Senior Center of some sort. At this Committee's last meeting, Town Manager Scaife was asked to start working on a Senior Plan and that would include the potential of using Moser School. Councilor Vargas told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that they are hoping there could be some involvement from them at some point for some type of funding or grants. State Representative Guerrera said when the whole issue had come up for 60 West Street that his thought was that the Town could purchase that for a Senior Center because that would have been a perfect site in his opinion. Councilor Vargas said she is not sure where the seniors want to be and they are still in discussions with them. The seniors would ideally like to be on the campus here but they got them to acknowledge that the Moser School site might work. State Representative Guerrera said he had been talking to Mayor Vasel about this and he

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asked if there wasn't a piece of land behind the RHPD that he had been thinking about having for the Senior Center. Mayor Vasel said the majority of seniors that he has spoken to would like to be on this campus or somewhere in this area but there are limitations (i.e. parking, etc.). He told State Representative Guerrera that he knows the Town sent him a letter and then they were asked to send another one with regards to actual dollar amounts for the funding. He asked if any progress has been made on those. State Representative Guerrera said no because some type of a description as to what is going to be done here is needed. Councilor Szeps told State Representative Guerrera that they will get him that plan which they are working on now. State Representative Guerrera asked if this is a just a thought process or if this is something serious. Mayor Vasel said they are serious and they want a Senior Center. State Representative Guerrera asked if there is a set of concrete plans and Councilor Vargas said no but they are working in that direction. State Senator Doyle said they need to present plans in order to advocate for State money and then he said who knows what will happen with 60 West Street down the road so he told them to keep that in the back of their minds. Federal funding for that hasn't been approved yet so there might be a decision at some point that they want out. Deputy Mayor Bell asked if this is the Medicare funding and State Senator Doyle said yes. Councilor Casasanta asked how the facility at 60 West Street is allowed to operate without funding and how long it has been in operation. State Senator Doyle said the State is paying the full tab as of today and he heard second hand that it will be hard to get 50% federal funding for that. It has been in operation for a couple of years.

Mayor Vasel said people have been calling him and e-mailing him the past few days with questions. The deficit mitigation package that is being proposed by the Governor would eliminate the State's requirement to release \$12.7 million on the municipal revenue sharing account and Mayor Vasel asked if anything has been done to make sure that none of that comes out of Rocky Hill. State Senator Doyle said the Governor has executive authority to do small mitigation packages up to 5% and the legislature gets involved once he goes over 5%. Mayor Vasel said the proposed budget would cut \$6.5 million in priority school funding and he asked if there is any idea about the effect of this on Rocky Hill. State Senator Doyle said this will have no impact to Rocky Hill because it isn't a priority school district to the best of his knowledge. Mayor Vasel said sometimes there is a "trickle down" effect if something affects one community. State Senator Doyle said "priority" is a specific category and this particular cut has nothing to do with Rocky Hill. State Representative Guerrera said this was put into a Statute.

Mayor Vasel said the Town Council has been advocates for the seniors. He has been trying to get senior rebates for tax relief accomplished. He asked State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle if there is any assistance or help that they could offer to help make that a reality and if there is any financial assistance that can be offered to the Rocky Hill seniors. State Representative Guerrera said he doesn't see any extra money out there that they would just be able to give out right now to seniors and he told Mayor Vasel with all due respect that he and State Senator Doyle had never said that. Mayor Vasel said he is very passionate about the seniors. State Senator Doyle said they have to make some priorities in the State and any new programs will have a limited chance. There are massive tax increases right now and the taxes will go up further if they were to give money for seniors. New spending will necessitate more income and that will necessitate more taxes. He and State Representative Guerrera aren't looking for more taxes. State Representative Guerrera said they had advocated for Dial-A-Ride

for seniors and they made sure the funding was put in place. They care about the seniors too. He told Mayor Vasel that the Town Council could make a choice and they could do something on their end if they want to give the rebate. Mayor Vasel said there are a lot of things they could do but they have to look at everything. He was just looking for a little assistance. State Senator Doyle said if they maintain municipal aid or increase it then he thinks that is an accomplishment in this economy. Over the last five years, there have been slight increases every year or flat funding in Connecticut while other States have cut this 40%. State Representative Guerrera told Mayor Vasel to send him a letter if he is telling him and State Senator Doyle that he wants them to try to get something and if he is telling them to lower the Town's Educational Cost Sharing or municipal aid in order to take some of that money to use it. They will then go back to see what they can do. Mayor Vasel said that isn't what he is trying to do. He then mentioned how Rocky Hill had been promised bathrooms at Ferry Park for \$800,000. State Representative Guerrera said the Director Of OPM called him today and Rocky Hill has that money. Mayor Vasel asked Town Manager Scaife if he was aware and he said that State Representative Guerrera had just learned about that today. State Representative Guerrera gave Town Manager Scaife the phone number to call with regards to this.

Mayor Vasel said Senate Bill No. 952 had been voted on. That erases the 1,500 foot drug free school zone and that will also reduce felony drug possession charges to being misdemeanors. Rocky Hill is a Town that safeguards the health and safety of its citizens so they should be more concerned with the child's first chance rather than a drug dealer's second chance. He asked State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle where they stand on that bill. State Senator Doyle said he is the Vice Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and that is a Governor's bill, which is called the Second Chance Bill. He is one of two Democrats who voted against this in the Judiciary Committee because he feels this is wrong in his communities. This is a wrong trend nationwide with the decriminalization of marijuana and he voted against that. He also voted against medical marijuana. If this Second Chance Bill comes to a vote in each Chamber, he and State Representative Guerrera will vote against it. State Representative Guerrera said he will work extremely hard to make sure that bill does get killed.

Deputy Mayor Bell said all of the Towns in Connecticut are looking for ways to save money. She asked State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle what they can do to help the Towns with the requirement for posting all of their Legal Notices in print. Deputy Mayor Bell thinks millions of dollars could be saved for the Towns in Connecticut if they were to go to online posting. There really wouldn't be any cost to the State in doing so. State Senator Doyle said this is around every year and they generally support it but this hasn't succeeded at the State Capitol because the newspapers come out to advocate hard so the legislature doesn't pass this. Deputy Mayor Bell said she didn't mean any disrespect to the *Hartford Courant*, etc. but this is one where it is kind of crazy and she mentioned how print subscriptions are going down all of the time. State Representative Guerrera said this is getting more and more momentum every year so they will probably see this pass within the next two to three years. Deputy Mayor Bell told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that she hopes they can help them by at least bringing this forward and supporting this.

Councilor Drapeau said he couldn't ask any questions this evening. He told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that he has both of their phone numbers.

Mayor Vasel said the Town Council can hopefully get some answers to the mandates, etc. He told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that they know Councilor Szeps is the liaison so he is hoping they can communicate, as well as have some follow-up in the future. State Representative Guerrera told Councilor Szeps to give him and State Senator Doyle a call if he wants to go to the State Capitol.

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Councilor Casasanta thanked State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle for coming this evening and told them that the Town Council has had a lot of discussion about their presence here at their meetings on occasion, which is really warranted. She told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle to set a date every six months, as well as around budget time, to come to a Town Council meeting. Councilor Casasanta said that Councilor Szeps is going to do a great job communicating to the Town Council but she told State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle that the constituents will like to see them there too. State Representative Guerrera told Councilor Casasanta with all due respect that he and State Senator Doyle know that the Councilors have difficult jobs because what happens there resonates to all of the Rocky Hill people. State Representative Guerrera said he and State Senator Doyle, as well as the Town Council, care about everybody in Rocky Hill so they try to do a balancing act at times but it isn't easy. State Representative Guerrera said they need to work together to try to see how they can resolve things the best possible way. State Senator Doyle told Councilor Casasanta that he appreciates her request but he asked if they can work through Councilor Szeps and for him to call them whenever he wants them here. Councilor Casasanta said that is what she said.

B. Discussion and Possible Action – Appointment of Town Clerk

<u>Deputy Mayor Bell made a motion to appoint Stuart Topliff as Town Clerk to the Town of Rocky Hill. The motion was seconded by Councilor Szeps and adopted by those present. Yeas-6; (Vasel, Bell, Casasanta, Drapeau, Szeps, Vargas) Nays-1; (Kochanek)</u>

Before the motion was voted on, Councilor Kochanek knows that according to Town Manager Scaife, the appointment of a multifaceted Town Clerk will save money and he said the Town is running quite efficiently according to a letter but he really thinks that a Town Clerk should be a Town Clerk. Councilor Kochanek said he would not be voting for this.

At this point, the motion was voted on.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Vasel said he had received a letter from Audrey Grant, who is the West Hill School Student Council Secretary, and she thanked him for coming to the school. Mayor Vasel read the letter aloud and in full. He thanked Audrey Grant and the Student Council.

Mayor Vasel said the Challenger Field dedication took place last week. This will be a baseball field for children of all abilities and disabilities. This will be a great addition to Rocky Hill. The Little League Opening Day was held at the same time and day as the dedication. He thanked Lisa Zerio (Director of Parks and Recreation & Custodial Staff), Walt Sykes (Parks and

Recreation), the Staff of Parks and Recreation, the Board of Directors, coaches, players and parents for helping to make the day successful.

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Mayor Vasel said the Rocky Hill Chamber of Commerce's Best of Rocky Hill Awards Event, which was excellent, was held last Thursday. He congratulated all of the winners.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Scaife told everyone that they might have heard it on the news earlier today about how the State of Connecticut is the first State in the Nation to offer a mattress recycling program with no cost to the citizens. Rocky Hill is part of that program. Citizens can bring used mattresses to the Transfer Station or they can have this done via bulky pickup.

A Shred-It Day had originally been scheduled for this past Saturday but due to an internal error with regards to the scheduling of the truck, Town Manager Scaife said this has been rescheduled for this coming Saturday at the Transfer Station from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Residents can bring documents that need to be shredded and it is a bonded company that takes these materials.

Town Manager Scaife said as they are preparing to finalize the upcoming year's budget, he thinks they are making good progress. He met with Superintendent Dr. Zito this morning. Superintendent Dr. Zito's office, as well as all of the Town Departments, are in the process of finalizing their year-end projections based on the April finals. They were able to do this report on May 1, 2015. They have some bad news with regards to court cases on assessments but they also have some good news on some additional revenues. They are continuing doing good though and he thinks they are ahead of schedule. He suggested to them about having a special meeting next Monday evening so they would have plenty of time to have a discussion and to review the details. He is expecting to have the final budget for both operating and CIP across all entities ready for a final discussion that evening if the Town Council prefers to have a special meeting for that purpose. Mayor Vasel asked if the budget would possibly be ready for adoption too and Town Manager Scaife said it certainly would be unless something unforeseen happens. Town Manager Scaife said he has had a good bit of interaction with CCM (Connecticut Conference of Municipalities). He referred to how State Representative Guerrera and State Senator Doyle had mentioned that the budget is subject to changes but Town Manager Scaife said they aren't anticipating those changes coming until the first few days of June so nothing will happen over the next few weeks to cause them to have any better insight as to what State revenues will be. Rocky Hill is status quo right now. Deputy Mayor Bell thought it would be prudent for them to schedule that meeting because they know that it is inherently problematic for them to wait until the very last day that they have to adopt a budget by Town Charter. The Town Council decided to have a special meeting next Monday evening starting at 6:30 p.m. Councilor Drapeau asked Town Manager Scaife if the Town Council could get an advanced copy of his presentation at least a day or two before Monday evening. Town Manager Scaife said packets for them will be getting out by this Friday. Councilor Drapeau also asked Town Manager Scaife if it is possible for them to get a response from Rich Vicino with regards to his parking lot promise at DiMauro Field, which he believes was supposed to be given as an update to the Town Council within ninety days of the Town Council seeing him the last time. Councilor Drapeau thinks that had been in November or December last year. Mayor Vasel said this wasn't part of their meeting's

agenda so they could ask Town Manager Scaife about that later. Councilor Drapeau said this would be for the future.

Executive Session

A. <u>Executive Session re: Strategy and Negotiations: Potential Land Acquisition with the Town Manager and Economic Development Director</u>

Councilor Szeps made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. with regards to Strategy and Negotiations: Potential Land Acquisition with the Town Manager and Economic Development Director. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Bell and adopted unanimously by those present.

Councilor Vargas made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Casasanta and adopted unanimously by those present.

Adjournment

Councilor Vargas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Casasanta and adopted unanimously by those present.

As there was no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Booth